

## Message Text

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71

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 DRC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1974

INFO USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN COMPLAINT ON ISRAELI DISREGARD  
OF GENEVA CONVENTION

1. ASYG URQUHART HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO USUN COPY OF  
10 DECEMBER 1973 LETTER TO SYG FROM EGYPTIAN PERMREP  
LISTING NUMBER OF EXAMPLES OF ISRAEL'S "NEGATIVE ATTITUDE"  
TOWARD RESPONSIBILITIES TO CIVILIANS UNDER FOURTH  
GENEVA CONVENTION. LETTER WILL NOT RPT NOT BE CIRCULATED  
AS UN DOCUMENT.

2. TEXT FOLLOWS:

EXCELLENCY,

UPON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MY GOVERNMENT, I WISH TO  
BRING TO YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE  
AND THE POLICY ADOPTED BY ISRAEL CONCERNING THE DISCHARGE  
OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOURTH GENEVA  
CONVENTION RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS IN TIME OF  
WAR OF 12 AUGUST 1949. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CONVENTION,  
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ISRAELI SHOULD ALLOW TAND FACILITATE AMONG OTHER THINGS THE

FOLLOWING:

- 1) EVACUATION OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED FROM THE SUEZ CITY AND IN PARTICULAR THE EMERGENCY CASES;
- 2) PROVISION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO THE HOSPITAL OF SUEZ;
- 3) FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE SUEZ CITY;
- 4) ENSURANCE OF MEDICAL SERVICE FOR THE POPULATION OF THE WEST OF SUEZ AND ADMITTANCE OF THE ICRC MEDICAL MISSION TO THIS AREA;
- 5) ENSURANCE OF FREE MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION OF THE ISRAELI-HELD TERRITORY ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL;
- 6) ENABLING THE ICRC TO INVESTIGATE THE STATUS OF THE DETAINED CIVILIANS BY THE ISRAELI FORCES AND TO REPORT THIS INFORMATION TO THE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES.

IT IS CLEAR FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION, THAT ISRAEL CANNOT ESCAPE ITS INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY UNDER THE PRETEXT THAT THE HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS ARE BEING RULED BY THE AGREEMENT OF 11 NOVEMBER 1973, REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 338 (1973) AND 339; OR THAT HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS ARE BEING DISCUSSED IN THE UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS AT KILOMETER 101 ON THE CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD.

THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION IS AN INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT TO WHICH ISRAEL IS A PARTY. ARTICLE I OF THAT CONVENTION STIPULATES THAT:

"THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO RESPECT AND TO ENSURE RESPECT FOR THE PRESENT CONVENTION IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

THE AGREEMENT OF 11TH NOVEMBER CANNOT IN ANY WAY AFFECT THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE FOURTH

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GENEVA CONVENTION. FURTHERMORE, THE FUNCTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE ICRC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION SHOULD BE FACILITATED AND FULLY RESPECTED.

IT IS ALSO TO BE NOTICED THAT THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL (S/11052/REV.1) APPROVED BY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 341 (1973) STIPULATES, INTER ALIA, THAT THE UNITED NATIONS EMERGENCY FORCE WILL CO-OPERATE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL

COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS IN ITS HUMANITARIAN TASK. IT IS  
THEREFORE CLEAR THAT BY DENYING THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF THE  
WEST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL THEIR RIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION AND BY FRUSTRATING THE EFFORTS  
UNDERTAKEN BY THE ICRC IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS RESPONSIBILITIES,  
ISRAEL DOES NOT ONLY VIOLATE THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION BUT  
ALSO PREJUDICES THE PEACE EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY  
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

DR. A. ESMAT ABDEL MEGUID  
AMBASSADOR  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE UNQTE.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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